

J.C. Watts, Jr.  
Chairman  
4th District, Oklahoma

*House Meets at 9:00 a.m. for Morning Hour and  
10:00 a.m. for Legislative Business*

*Anticipated Floor Action:*

**Motion to Go to Conference on H.R. 2606 (FY 2000 Foreign Operations  
Appropriations Act)**

**H.R. 1883—Iran Nonproliferation Act**

**H.R. 417—Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform Act**



**Motion to Go to Conference on H.R. 2606 (FY 2000 Foreign Operations  
Appropriations Act)**

**Floor Situation:** Mr. Callahan or a designee is expected to offer a motion to go to conference on H.R. 2606 as the first order of business today. A motion to instruct may be made immediately after this request and before the chair appoints conferees. Instructions are considered the prerogative of the minority and are debatable for one hour.

**Summary:** The motion, if agreed to, will establish a House-Senate conference to resolve differences between H.R. 2606, which passed the House by a vote of 385-35 on July 27, 1999, and the Senate version (S. 1234), which passed by voice vote on August 4, 1999. Once agreed to, the motion permits the chair to appoint conferees. Details of a possible motion to instruct were unavailable at press time.

**Views:** The Republican leadership strongly supports the motion to go to conference and opposes any motion to instruct conferees that would weaken the position of House negotiators.

**Additional Information:** See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVIII, #22, July 23, 1999.



## H.R. 1883—Iran Nonproliferation Act

**Floor Situation:** The House will consider H.R. 1883 under suspension of the rules after it appoints conferees on H.R. 2606. It is debatable for 40 minutes, may not be amended, and requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

**Summary:** H.R. 1883 requires the president to submit a report to Congress identifying entities that, according to credible information, have transferred missile components or technology to Iran after January 22, 1998. The bill mandates sanctions against entities found to have transferred such technology, including denying arms export licenses and cutting off all U.S. assistance to the entity for two years. The bill allows the president to waive sanctions for reasons of national security.

The measure also prohibits the release of remaining U.S. funding (\$590 million) for the International Space Station to the Russian government unless the president certifies that no entity under the jurisdiction of the Russian Space Agency has transferred missile technology to Iran during the past year. The bill was introduced by Mr. Gilman and was reported by the International Relations Committee on July 29, 1999.

**Additional Information:** See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVIII, #25, September 10, 1999.



## H.R. 417—Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform Act

**Floor Situation:** The House is scheduled to consider H.R. 417 after it completes consideration of H.R. 1883. On Thursday, August 5, 1999, the Rules Committee granted a structured rule providing one hour of general debate equally divided between the chairman and the ranking minority member of the House Administration Committee. The rule makes in order 10 amendments to the base text of the bill, each debatable for 10 minutes. It then makes in order three substitute amendments, each debatable for 40 minutes. The rule states that if any substitute is adopted by the Committee of the Whole, that will conclude consideration of the bill for amendment. The chairman of the Committee of the Whole may postpone votes and reduce the voting time on a postponed vote to five minutes, so long as it follows a regular 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

**Summary:** H.R. 417 eliminates federal and state soft money that influences federal elections. It redefines the concept of “express advocacy,” as it applies to campaign spending by independent groups and party organizations, to include radio and television communications that refer to a clearly identified federal candidate outside the 60-day period. The bill permits only hard money to be used for express advocacy ads. It also requires candidates to file their campaign reports electronically and requires the FEC to post reports on the Internet. It clarifies restrictions on fundraising on federal property and codifies the Supreme Court’s *Beck* decision, which requires employers to notify employees who pay annual fees to their organizations that they may object to the use of their dues to support political activity. Finally, the bill bans political parties from making coordinated expenditures on behalf of those candidates who do not limit their own spending to \$50,000. The bill was introduced by Mr. Shays and Mr. Meehan and was reported unfavorably (i.e., disapproved, but forwarded to the full House for consideration) by a vote of 6-3 on August 5, 1999.

**Views:** The Republican leadership has not taken a unified position on the measure or any of the substitutes. An official Clinton Administration viewpoint was unavailable at press time.

**Amendments:** The rule makes in order the following 10 amendments to H.R. 417, each debatable for 10 minutes each and in the order listed below.

**Mr. Whitfield** will offer an amendment to increase the individual contribution limit from \$1,000 to \$3,000. This will allow an individual to contribute up to \$3,000 for the primary election and up to \$3,000 per general election period for a candidate. *Staff Contact: Jason Van Pelt, x5-3115*

**Mr. Whitfield** will offer an amendment to increase the aggregate individual contribution level from \$30,000 to \$75,000 per year. *Staff Contact: Jason Van Pelt, x5-3115*

**Mr. Doolittle** will offer an amendment that exempts voter guides from “express advocacy” as defined by the bill. *Staff Contact: Pete Evich, x5-2511*

**Messrs. Bereuter and Wicker** will offer an amendment to prohibit campaign contributions to federal candidates from any individual other than a U.S. citizen or national. *Staff Contact: Susan Olson, x-5-4806*

**Mr. Faleomavaega** will offer an amendment to clarify the right of U.S. Nationals (to make political contributions. *Staff Contact: Martin Yerick, x5-8577*

**Mr. Goodling** will offer an amendment designed to give workers the right to give permission before their union dues are spent for purposes unrelated to collective bargaining. Specifically, the amendment prohibits any labor organization that assesses dues from spending any employee’s dues money on activities unrelated to collective bargaining unless that employee gives prior written authorization. It also (1) holds any labor organization that fails to secure the required authorization liable to the affected employee for damages equal to two times the amount of dues accepted in violation of the law in addition to interest and attorney’s fees; (2) requires unionized employers to post a notice informing employees of their rights under this legislation; (3) requires more detailed financial reporting by labor organizations; and (4) prohibits a labor union from intimidating or retaliating against a worker for exercising his or her rights under the legislation. The text of the amendment is identical to the Worker Paycheck Fairness Act, introduced by Mr. Goodling on July 1. *Staff Contact: Dan Lara, 4-4527*

**Messrs. Shaw, Calvert, and Gallegly** will offer an amendment to require congressional candidates to raise at least 50 percent of total campaign contributions from within the state in which the candidate is running for office in elections after 2000. Funds donated from political parties are not subject to this limitation. If one of the candidates uses personal funds exceeding \$250,000, the amendment exempts his or her opponent from this requirement. Candidates who knowingly and willfully exceed these limits may be fined an amount equal to twice the amount raised over the 50 percent in-state limit. *Staff Contact: Tanner Gilreath (Shaw), x5-3026; Derek Pillie (Calvert), x5-1986*

**Mr. Sweeney** will offer an amendment to require a candidate’s principal campaign committee to reimburse the federal government for all use of government transportation for campaign purposes. It also prohibits other campaign committees from making the reimbursements on another candidate’s behalf. *Staff Contact: Mike Power, 5-5614*

**Mr. DeLay** will offer an amendment to preclude the regulations of H.R. 417 from applying to Internet communications. Under the amendment, on-line fundraising activities would be administered under current FEC regulations. *Staff Contact: Drew Maloney, x5-5951*

**Mr. Ewing** will offer an amendment to establish that if any provision of H.R. 417 is found unconstitutional, then the entire act shall be treated as invalid. *Staff Contact: Ryan McLaughlin, x5-2731*

**Substitute Amendments:** As stated above, the rule makes in order the following three substitute amendments, each debatable for 40 minutes.

— *Doolittle Substitute* —

The Doolittle substitute repeals limits on contributions by individuals, political parties, and political action committees to candidates or political parties. The measure terminates taxpayer financing of presidential election campaigns. It requires political parties to distinguish between federal and non-federal funds and requires each state party to file with the FEC a copy of the same disclosure forms it files with the state government. The substitute also requires that (1) campaign reports be filed electronically, (2) reports be filed every 24 hours during the last 90 days of the election, and (3) the FEC post all campaign reports on the Internet. The amendment prohibits candidates from accepting campaign contributions unless specific disclosure requirements are met. The substitute includes the language of H.R. 1922, the Citizen Legislature and Political Freedom Act (*H.Rept. 106-296*), which was introduced by Mr. Doolittle *et al.* on May 25, 1999. *Staff Contact: Pete Evich, x5-2511*

—*Hutchinson, Brady, Moran (KS), Hill (MT) and Hulshof Substitute*—

The substitute amends the 1971 Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA) to ban national parties (including the national congressional campaign committees), their officers and agents, and any entity that is controlled (directly or indirectly) by the national party committees from receiving or spending “soft money.” It also prohibits a candidate for federal office or a federal officeholder from using soft money. The substitute exempts a federal officeholder if the individual is also a candidate for a non-federal office. It does not prohibit a federal officeholder or challenger from attending state and local party fundraising events in his/her home state. In addition, it prohibits interstate party transfers of soft money. The substitute permits an individual to contribute up to \$25,000 annually to the political parties and up to \$25,000 to all other non-party political committees (i.e., candidate campaign committees and political action committees).

In addition, the substitute indexes all contributions to inflation and requires third party groups that spend \$25,000 or more in a single district or \$100,000 nationally on television or radio advertisements that bear the name or likeness of a candidate to disclose certain information regarding the expenditure. Finally, the substitute (1) changes the FEC filing deadlines to monthly time periods; (2) requires certain campaign committees to file electronically; and (3) requires political campaign committees that receive contributions of \$200 or more include the occupation and employer of the contributor on FEC reports. The substitute contains the language of H.R. 1867, the Campaign Integrity Act (*H.Rept. 106-294*), which was introduced by Mr. Hutchinson *et al.* on May 19, 1999. *Staff Contact: Stacey Shrader, x5-4301*

—*Thomas Substitute*—

The Thomas substitute prohibits soft money disbursements and independent expenditures by foreign nationals in prohibited election-related financing. It also prohibits donations to candidates or parties from funds that were generated in business activities outside the U.S. The bill expedites FEC reporting requirements. Specifically, it (1) requires candidates to report, within 24 hours, certain contributions and expenditures during the last 90 days of an election; (2) requires contributions received during the last 20 days of the election to be reported within 24 hours, instead of 48 hours under current law; (3) allows 24-hour notices to be filed via fax or e-mail; (4) requires mandatory electronic filing for campaign committees that raise or spend more than \$50,000; and (5) changes the FEC reporting period to an election cycle, instead of a calendar year, basis.

In addition, the substitute requires (1) political action committees to report secondary payments once an intermediate agent spends at least \$5,000 in an election cycle for services or items that support a specific candidate; (2) post-election reports with cumulative information on all contributions and expenditures through election day; (3) information on all aggregate contributions to be included in a report on itemized contributions; and (4) all funds transferred from national parties to state and local parties to be disclosed.

The substitute includes several provisions designed to improve administration and enforcement at the Federal Election Commission (FEC). In response to recent campaign law violations, the substitute changes the standard for taking action from “reason to believe” to “reason to seek additional action,” allowing the FEC greater authority to launch inquiries into donation violations. The substitute also requires the FEC to (1) provide written responses regarding questions where the law is clear and understandable, and allows “safe harbor” protection for individuals who act in good faith and rely on a written response; (2) publish and index public requests and responses; (3) develop a standard form for complaints; and (4) issue a clear statement informing individuals that any complaint filed is under investigation and has not been proven.

The substitute requires that (1) donations of \$500 or more that are intended to be returned from committees after 90 days of receipt be put in an FEC escrow account pending an investigation of any violations of the law; (2) money obtained in this account be used to administer penalties, fines, and investigation costs; and (3) donations held in the escrow account be returned to owners if there is no reason to seek proof of violation after 180 days of the initial deposit.

The substitute also (1) authorizes the FEC to create a fine schedule concerning minor violations (with maximum fines of \$20,000); (2) terminates *ex officio* FEC membership of the House Clerk and Secretary of the Senate; and (3) prohibits receipt of cash contributions in U.S. or foreign currency in excess of \$100.

The substitute applies aggregate contribution limits (\$25,000 per year) on a calendar year basis during non-election years. It also (1) mandates that candidates’ lines of credit (i.e., credit card advances or home equity loans) be treated like a commercially reasonable loan; (2) repeals a Commerce Secretary requirement to report the voting age population by congressional district; (3) requires price index and voting age population information from the Commerce Secretary by February 15 of each year; and (4) deletes honoraria from contribution exemptions. The substitute becomes effective for elections that occur after January 2001. It contains the language of H.R. 2668, the Campaign Reform and Election Integrity Act (*H.Rept. 106-297*), which was introduced by Mr. Thomas *et al.* on August 2, 1999. **Staff Contact: Jason Poblete (Thomas), x5-2915**

**Additional Information:** See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVIII, September 10, 1999.



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